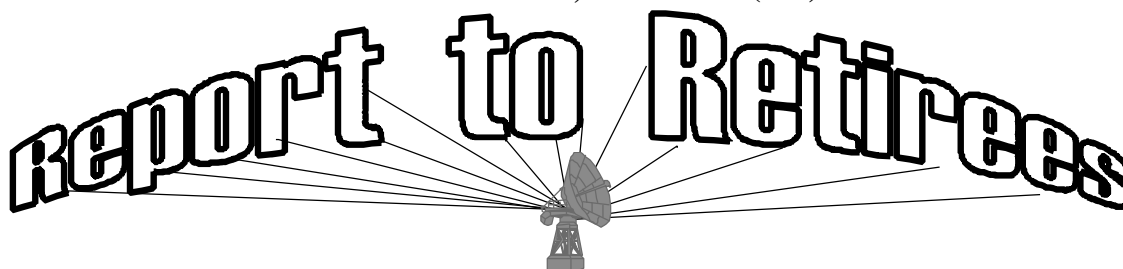


FORT DETRICK ALL SERVICES RETIREE COUNCIL

1520 FREEDMAN DRIVE, SUITE 300 (301) 619-3340



NUMBER 2-01 TWENTY-THIRD EDITION SECOND QUARTER 2001

On 25 April 1995, the Garrison Commander appointed a Fort Detrick All Services Retiree Council. The purpose of the Council is to provide retirees with a means of communicating with the active and reserve military; to analyze and influence decisions, policies, and laws; to take part in programs concerning their well-being; and to develop public support of military programs through retirees.

The Council meets on the second Monday of each month at 1900 and we need to hear from the retiree community. Come to our meetings in Bldg. 1520 Community Support Center on Freedman Drive (*beyond the Education and Training Center at the Commissary*. *NOTE: There is no entry through the Education and Training Center.*) or call one of the council members with your ideas, concerns, comments, or questions at (301) 619-3340. A list of the Council members follows:

LCDR Robert B. Angrisani (USCGR-Ret)
(301) 845-6223
FAX: (301) 845-4080
rbawriter@aol.com

Mrs. Betty Bennett (301) 663-6431

CMS Harry Biller (USAF-Ret)
(304) 725-8560
boyhwb@aol.com

SFC Linda Card (USAF-Ret) (301) 668-1173

Mr. Eddie Coleman, Garrison Liaison
Chairman, Publicity Committee
(301) 619-3381
FAX: (301) 619-3597
eddie.coleman@det.amedd.army.mil

SFC Carol A. Garrand (USA-Ret)
(301) 695-1014

CPT Robert E. Glausier (USMC-Ret)
(301) 432-5289

SFC Alexander Hardy, Jr. (USA-Ret) (301) 668-1391

COL Richard Hauer, Jr. (USA-Ret)
(301) 663-0844

LTC John P. Hess (USA-Ret)
Council Chairman (301) 371-6905
FAX: (301) 619-3597

MSG Scott McKnight (USA-Ret)
(301) 695-8958

RADM William G. Prescott
(USPHS-Ret) (301) 829-2064

MSG Linda Siewert (USA-Ret)
(301) 845-2524

CSM Georg Tietze (USA-Ret)
Council Secretary
(301) 845-4756
georg.tietze@det.amedd.army.mil

PNC Robert M. Yoder (USN-Ret)
(301) 694-1290

Published quarterly by the Fort Detrick All Services Retiree Council (301) 619-3340

Post It!

FREQUENTLY CALLED TELEPHONE NUMBERS AT FORT DETRICK:

ALL SERVICES RETIREE COUNCIL OFFICE.....VOICE: (301) 619-3340
.....FAX: (301) 619-3597
FORT DETRICK (When calling from outside the local dialing area).....1-800-256-7621
WEB PAGE.....<http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/detrick/>
POST EXCHANGE.....(301) 619-2262
GAS STATION.....(301) 662-7777
THRIFT SHOP.....(301) 619-2289
BARBER SHOP.....(301) 619-2345
CLEANERS.....(301) 694-3237
COMMISSARY.....(301) 619-2989
CHAPEL.....(301) 619-7371
HEALTH CLINIC/TRICARE.....(301) 619-7175
PROVOST MARSHAL.....(301) 619-7114
JUDGE ADVOCATE/ LEGAL ASSISTANCE.....(301) 619-2221
FORT DETRICK OPERATOR ASSISTANCE.....(301) 619-8000
HOTLINE(301) 619-CARE (2273)
ID CARDS.....(301) 619-7311
OTHER NUMBERS:
RETIRED PAY (DFAS-CLEVELAND).....VOICE: 1-800-321-1080
.....FAX: 1-800-469-6559
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS1-800-827-1000
DEERS.....1-800-538-9552
BWI SPACE "A" TRAVEL.....1-877-429-4262



MESSAGE FROM THE ARMY SURGEON GENERAL

Dear Army Retiree:

I wanted to take this opportunity to speak directly to each of you about the significant and positive change that has recently been implemented in your Military Health System. For many years now there has been a gap between the level of care that military retirees believed they were promised and our authority to provide that level of care. The passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2001, which was signed by President Clinton on October 30, 2000, will have a profound, positive impact on medical benefits for America's military retirees, especially those 65 years old and older.

For the first time, our most senior retirees will be genuine partners in the Military Health System beginning in October 2001. The act extends TRICARE benefits to all retirees regardless of age. To gain this coverage, retirees must purchase Medicare Part B at age 65. If you are already 65 and have not purchased Medicare Part B, you can sign up for Part B during the January 1 through March 31 open enrollment period. There will be a surcharge for those who did not sign up when they turned 65.

The act also provides for expansion of the DoD pharmacy benefit. On April 1, 2001, retirees 65 years and older may not only continue to use Military Treatment Facility pharmacies with no co-

pay, but may also use both the National Mail Order Pharmacy (NMOP) and the TRICARE retail pharmacy network with no deductible and only minimal co-pays. The act further authorizes access to non-network pharmacies. This option includes an annual deductible of \$150 and a 20 percent co-pay or \$9.00 per prescription (whichever is greater). To be eligible for these expanded pharmacy benefits, Medicare Part B is required if you turn 65 after April 1, 2001.

Finally, the catastrophic cap has been reduced from \$7500 to \$3000 per year. This is a significant enhancement especially for those beneficiaries requiring extensive medical care.

The coverage under TRICARE is good news for our over 65 retirees! Now it is our job in the Army Medical Department, working with DoD Health Affairs and our sister Services, to fulfill the mandate. I pledge to each of you that we will move quickly to get the programs in place and provide the care you have earned.

Watch for more notes from me about your Military Health System in future editions of Army Echoes.

Sincerely,

James B. Peake
Lieutenant General
The Surgeon General

Fort Detrick Annual Military Ball plans underway...

Not since the mid-eighties has an installation-wide formal military function been held for Fort Detrick. The date has been set! On August 17, 2001, a Fort Detrick formal military ball will be held at the Francis Scott Key Holiday Inn in Frederick, MD. "We want to make this a great event for all," said Col. James R. Greenwood, deputy installation commander and U.S. Army Garrison (USAG) commander. "I hope that everyone on the installation gets involved and takes part in what should be an exciting event. I am sure that there are many people on post who have never experienced a military event, such as this, with all of the formal military pomp and circumstance," said Greenwood. Maj. Gen. John S. Parker, commanding general, U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC) and Fort Detrick, will be the keynote speaker. A key group of staffers from the USAMRMC and USAG met and began initial planning to get the military ball underway. An organizational meeting was held on April 14, 2001, to begin planning the event. Help is needed in all aspects of the planning, such as, the program for the evening, publicity, invitation preparation and mailings, decorating, ticket sales, and most of all -- fund raising to reduce the cost of tickets. Anyone, including retirees, with questions regarding the military ball should call Joyce Kelley, at the Public Affairs Office, 301-619-2018, or LTC(Ret) John Hess at (301) 619-3340.

DEERS Update

Does the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) program automatically update retiree data? No, DEERS does not automatically track those who are registered in the DEERS database. It is the retiree's or eligible family member's responsibility to update his or her information. Problems arise when DEERS is not notified of a change, such as marriage, divorce, birth, or adoption. TRICARE benefits for new spouses or children may be denied because DEERS has not been updated. Also, a claim may be paid mistakenly because DEERS has no record of divorce or death. In such cases, and according to the law, the government must request

reimbursement, regardless of who is at fault.

Information can be updated by:

- 1) taking your changes to the nearest Military Personnel Office;
- 2) e-mailing your changes to:
addrinfo@osd.pentagon.mil
- 3) faxing your changes to (831) 655-8317
- 4) mailing your changes to: DEERS Support Office
Attn: CA
400 Gigling Road
Seaside, CA 93955-6771;
- or
- 5) changing your information on line from the following web site:
www.tricare.osd.mil/deers

For more information, call the DEERS Support Office Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Pacific Time) at the following numbers:
(800) 334-4162 (California only) or
(800) 527-5602 (Alaska and Hawaii) or
(800) 538-9552 (all others)

Sign Up for Medicare Part B This alert applies to individuals, whether in the original Medicare plan or a Medicare managed care plan, who have not signed up for Medicare Part B (medical insurance). If you have not enrolled in Part B, you will not be eligible to participate in the Tricare For Life program, which begins on Oct. 1. However, there's still time. If you are 65 or older and are not covered by Part B, you can sign up for Part B during a General Enrollment Period (GEP), which runs from Jan. 1 through March 31 of each year. If you enroll during the 2001 GEP, your Part B coverage will start on July and you will get TFL beginning on Oct. 1.

Conversely, failure to do so could make you ineligible for TFL until you are enrolled in Part B. This means delays in TFL coverage. For example, if you wait until the 2002 GEP to enroll in Part B, your Medicare Part B and TFL coverage will not begin until July 1, 2002. Further, please remember that except in special cases, the Part B premium increases by 10 percent for each 12 month period that you could have had Part B but did not take it.

What about signing up for Part B if you (or your spouse) continue working after age 65? If you are

covered by an employer or union group health plan, you don't have to sign up for Part B when you turn 65. You will have a special enrollment period that allows you to sign up for Part B when you retire and are no longer employed. To enroll in Part B or for more information about Part B, call your local Social Security office, or call the Social Security Administration at (800) 772-1213.

New Rates Proposed for Pharmacy Programs

The TRICARE Management Activity is proposing new flat-rate, standardized co-payments for DoD mail-order and retail pharmacy programs, effective April 1. The proposal was driven by congressional guidance to improve consistent application of benefits and employ best business practices. The new co-payments will apply to all beneficiary groups (except active duty members, who have no co-payments) and will start along with the April 1 implementation of the TSRx for Medicare-eligible service beneficiaries. The new rate structure is designed to promote the use of generic drugs and the National Mail Order Pharmacy (NMOP), as indicated below.

For drugs in military treatment facilities, there still will be no copayments. For the NMOP and TRICARE retail network pharmacies, the cost will be \$3 for generic and \$9 for brand-name drugs. These copayments will purchase different amounts of pharmaceuticals, depending on the source.

For the NMOFT the copayment will cover a 90-day supply. In TRICARE retail network pharmacies, the same copayment will buy only a 30-day supply. In non network pharmacies, the cost will be \$9 or 20 percent of the prescription cost, whichever is greater. Beneficiaries using nonnetwork pharmacies also must pay an annual \$150-per-person deductible before TRICARE will begin reimbursements.

Beneficiaries who turn 65 on or after April 1 must be enrolled in Medicare Part B to use the new pharmacy coverage. Beneficiaries who are 65 before April 1 are not required to enroll in Medicare Part B to take advantage of TSRx but *will* need that coverage to participate in TFL, which begins on Oct. 1.



Council Profile-Command Sergeant Major Tietze

Command Sergeant Major (USA Ret.) Tietze was born in 1933 in Berlin, Germany and, upon graduation from high school in 1952, studied forensic laboratory sciences at the Institute for Forensic Medicine and Criminology, University of Goettingen, Germany. In 1957 he immigrated to the United States and accepted a position with the pathology department at the State Hospital in Warren, Pennsylvania. In September 1957 he was drafted into the Army and sworn in at New Cumberland, Pennsylvania.

He took basic combat training and advanced individual training at Fort Benning, Georgia. In May 1958, then a medical corpsman, CSM Tietze participated in "OPERATION GYROSCOPE" which moved the entire Third Infantry Division from Fort Benning to various locations throughout southern Germany. He served as troop aidman of HQ Troop, 7th Cavalry until his release from active duty in 1961.

In October 1961, he enlisted into the Army and subsequently was assigned to overseas duty with the 517th Medical Company (Clearing), Bad Kreuznach, Germany. In November 1961, prior to his departure for his new assignment, CSM Tietze became a U. S. citizen in a ceremony at the Federal District Court In New York City.

While with the 517th Medical Company, he served as section and platoon sergeant and later as the operations and training NCO of the unit. In February 1967 he received assignment instructions to the 36th Evacuation Hospital, Republic of Vietnam, and saw action during the Tet offensive. After a 14 months tour in Vietnam, he was reassigned to Landstuhl, Germany, and became platoon sergeant and later First Sergeant of the 583rd Medical Company (Ambulance). In 1970 he assumed the duties of First Sergeant with the 42nd Medical Company (Ambulance), Fuerth, Germany. He held that position until his return to the United States as the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the 102nd Medical Battalion, 42nd Infantry Division, NYARNG in New York City. Upon the Army's "STEADFAST" reorganization in 1973, CSM Tietze became the Senior Enlisted Advisor, Branch Assistance Team AMEDD and subsequently the Sergeant Major of the Training Management Assistance Branch, Readiness Group Stewart, West Point, New York.

In July 1976 he reported to Class #8, U. S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas, graduating in January 1977. His next assignment was as Operations Sergeant Major of Letterman Army Medical Center, Presidio of San Francisco, California. He held that position until his appointment as Command Sergeant Major of LAMC. In May 1979 he reported for duty as CSM of the 196th Station Hospital at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers, Europe (SHAPE) Belgium. In August 1982, CSM Tietze returned to the United States to assume the duties of Post Command Sergeant Major of Fort Detrick, Maryland. In November 1987 he retired from this position after 30 years of service in the United States Army.

During his distinguished and illustrious career, CSM Tietze was honored for exceptionally meritorious service in positions of great responsibility. His many awards, decorations and commendations include: The Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster and the Army Achievement Medal with oakleaf cluster. Two Meritorious Unit Citations and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry reflect on his wartime service. He also holds the Expert Field Medical Badge, numerous service medals, ribbons qualification badges and foreign awards.

Command Sergeant Major Tietze and his wife of 41 years, Linda, reside in Walkersville, Maryland. He is employed by the Graduate School, USDA and in charge of academic testing and the Learning Center at the Fort Detrick Center for Training and Education Excellence. They have two married daughters, Annette and Denise, and four grand children. Denise is also a captain in the Texas Army National Guard. CSM Tietze holds Associate in Science and Arts degrees and a Bachelor of Science degree.

Getting Ready for TRICARE for Life

The most important concern right now is enrolling in Medicare Part B and; updating DEERS(Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System) information. This advice applies to individuals, whether in the original Medicare plan or a Medicare managed-care plan, who have not signed up for Medicare Part B (medical insurance).;If you have not enrolled in Part B, you will not be eligible to participate: in the TRICARE For Life program, which begins on Oct 1, 2001. However, there's still time. If you're 65 or older and aren't covered by Part B, you can sign up for it during General Enrollment Period (GEP) which runs from Jan1 through March 31 of each year. If you enroll during the 2001 GEP, your Medicare Part B

coverage will start on July 1, 2001, and you will get TRICARE For Life beginning Oct 1, 2001.

Conversely, failure to sign up could make you ineligible for TRICARE For Life until you are enrolled in Part b, which means delays in TRICARE For Life Coverage. For example, if you wait until the 2002 GEP to enroll in Part B, YOUR Medicare Part B and TRICARE For Life coverage will not begin until July 1, 2002. Further, please remember that, except in special cases, the Medicare Part B premium increased by 10 percent for each 12-month period you could have had Part B but did not take it.

What about signing up for Part B if you (or your spouse) continue working after age 65? If you are covered by an employer or union group health plan, you don't have to sign up for Part B when you turn 65. You will have a special enrollment period to sign up for Part B when you retire and are no longer employed. To enroll in Medicare Part B or for more information about Part B, call your local Social Security office, or call the Social Security Administration at 800 772 1213. The next critical step to prepare yourself for TRICARE For Life is to update your DEERS information. If it is not current, you may run into problems when you attempt to take advantage of the new pharmacy benefit for Medicare eligible service beneficiaries, which begins on April 1, 2001. Having accurate DEERS information is also a must if you hope to participate in TRICARE For Life when it begins on Oct 1, 2001. For instructions on how to update your DEERS information see "Answer Digest" (page 48). Failure to enroll in Medicare Part B or update your DEERS information before April 1, 2001, could deny you access to important health care benefits.

DO'S AND DON'TS

Although the following do's and don'ts may seem redundant, it is vital that we reiterate them to be sure all retirees are prepared to take advantage of TRICARE For Life.

-Do update your family information in DEERS before April 1, 1001, to ensure you are eligible for the TRICARE pharmacy benefit.

-Do enroll in Medicare Part B during the next General Enrollment Period, which runs from Jan 1 to Mar 31, 2001.

-Don't drop your Medicare supplemental insurance policy until Oct 1, 2001, at the very earliest.

-Don't confuse TRICARE For Life with long-term care insurance. TRICARE For Life does not cover nursing homes or other services associated with domiciliary or custodial care.

HONORING ALL WEST VIRGINIA VETERANS

The State legislature of West Virginia has recently approved a resolution that will honor all West Virginia veterans in a significant ceremony. Interstate Highway 81 (I-81) which passes through the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia will be renamed as the West Virginia Veterans Memorial Freeway on June 20, 2001. Invited guests include the Governor of West Virginia, Bob Wise, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Anthony J. Principi and other distinguished visitors from civic and veterans service organizations.

The ceremony is tentatively scheduled from 11:00 am. to noon at the West Virginia Interstate 81, near the Virginia State Line. An honor guard, a military band and presentations by guest speakers will highlight the ceremony. The focus of attention will be two highway signs of cut stone made from bridge abutments, 20 feet long and 6 feet high. These illuminated highway signs will be constructed at the two rest stops entering West Virginia from Maryland and Virginia. The public is invited to participate in this patriotic event honoring all West

Virginia veterans. Free bus transportation will be provided from the VA Medical Center in Martinsburg, WV to the ceremony site at 10:15 a.m., June 20, 2001, which is West Virginia Day.

FRANCE HONORS U.S. WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony J. Principi and French Ambassador H.E. Francois de l'Estang announced that the French Government will honor World War II veterans with certificates of appreciation for their role in liberating France. To be eligible, a veteran must have served on French territory, in French territorial waters or in French airspace between June 6, 1944 and May 8, 1945. The certificate will not be issued posthumously.

"This honor is further evidence that the contributions of our World War II veterans will be remembered by this nation and by our allies around the world whom they helped to free," said Principi. The VA Medical Center in Martinsburg, West Virginia is facilitating the processing of the applications of the Embassy of France "Thank You America Certificates." The presentation of these certificates is planned during the Memorial Day Ceremonies in the Nursing Home Care Unit of the VA Medical Center at 2 p.m.. on May 30, 2001.

In order to receive the certificate, each eligible World War II veteran must submit a short application and a copy of their military orders showing dates of service in France. A blank form is on page 9 of this newsletter. The completed form and copies orders must be returned no later

than April 30, 2001 in order to receive the certificate on May 30, 2001. Another ceremony will be conducted later on Veterans Day, November 11, 2001.

NEW HOURS AT POST EXCHANGE

Beginning May 7, 2001, the Post Exchange Main Store will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday-Saturday. In addition, the Gas Station will be open from 9a.m. to 6p.m., Monday-Friday and 10a.m. to 3p.m. on Saturdays. All exchange activities will remain closed on Sundays and Holidays.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

The 7th Annual Retiree Appreciation Day is scheduled for October 3, 2001.

Fort Detrick AER Fund Campaign Welcomes Retirees

The Fort Detrick Army Emergency Relief (AER) staff would like to invite all armed service retirees, widows, and dependents to join us during our scheduled events for the 2001 AER Fund Campaign. Currently, we have a Golf Scramble at Glade Valley on April 20 to benefit AER for \$45.00/person. A deli lunch starts at 12:00 noon with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m.. Another major event is our annual AER Fund Campaign Kick-Off Ceremony and Fun Run. This will take place on April 27 on the Blue and Gray Field (just inside the main gate) starting at 7:45 a.m. for the ceremony and 8:00 a.m. for the run. The run is open to runners and walkers, military and civilian, for roughly three and one-half miles around post. Donations are accepted and 2001 AER T-Shirts will be available for sale on the field. Other events are in the works, including softball, bowling, and/or racquetball tournaments, dress down days, baked goods sales, bar-b-cues, etc. Please come out and join us as we have a good time and "help the ARMY take care of it's own" with AER. For more information, contact Fort Detrick AER at 301-619-3455. You can also get information on the Fort Detrick website

www.armymedicine.army.mil/detrick and the Headquarters AER website www.aerhq.org.

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2001

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THANK YOU-AMERICA CERTIFICATE

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: INFORMATION DESK, VA MEDICAL CENTER, MARTINSBURG, WV
For more information, contact Robert Elliott, (304) 264-4828. ...

Recommendation			
For the Certificate to Recognize the Allied Soldiers Who Took Part to The Normandy Landing and Contributed to the Liberation of France 1944=1045			
Last Name:	First Name	Middle Initial:	
Date of Birth:	Birthplace:	Country of Birth:	
Street Address			
Town:	State:	Zip	Telephone
Major Combat Unit (Army, Division, Naval ship, Coast Guard vessel, Numbered Airforce):			
World War II Serial Number			
Duration of armed services on French territory, airspace or waters during World War II and dates (year, month end day, <u>Please attach a copy of military records:</u>			
Dates of Service-From		Until:	
Where did you serve in France?			
Are you a member of a Veteran Association: YES/NO			
If yes, which one? (Name, Address, Phone #, E-mail)			

If this form is prepared by a third person, please indicate your name, address and phone number below:

To be completed by the veteran:

I _____, the undersigned, declare on my honor that the information contained on this form and on the attached copies is exact.

Done at _____ on _____
2001

VETERAN'S SIGNATURE

Mailing List: For FREE home delivery of *Report to Retirees*, print this page, complete the forms below and mail to: **DCS, ATTN: MCHD-CSM, 1520 FREEDMAN DRIVE, SUITE 300, FORT DETRICK, MARYLAND 21702-5016**

PRIVACY ACT OF 1974-

Auth.Sec.3012, Title 10, United States Code. **PURPOSE OF THIS FORM:** To maintain current mailing address which will be used when mailing newsletters and other notices to military retiree or widow(er).

LAST NAME: _____ **FIRST NAME:** _____

SSN: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

Check block which shows your status

Retiree ☐ Widow(er) ☐ Reserve retiree not yet 60 ☐

From: DCS
ATTN: MCHD-CSM (Retiree Council)
1520 Freedman Drive, Suite 300
Fort Detrick, MD 21702-5016

To:
